

Approved For Release 2005/01/10 : CIA-RDP85B00803R000200090022-0

CUBA - Missile Crisis

To OGC, John Warner Subj: U-2 Coverage of Cuba 12 Feb 1963

1. In response to your request on 6 Feb 1963, the following information pertaining to the conduct of U-2 operations over Cuba during the period 9 to 14 Oct 1962 is provided.
2. SG approval for Cuban overflights in the month of October 1962 included the one sortie, forecast by the CIA, in addition to two sorties carried over from the Sept approvals. Weather was reviewed daily and the September missions were completed by 7 Oct 1962. Favorable weather existed on 8 and 9 October; however, no aircraft were available in commission to accomplish the one remaining sortie. Weather was unfavorable on 10, 11 and 12 October. During this period Agency personnel at Edwards AFB, Calif.

Approved For Release 2005/01/10 : CIA-RDP85B00803R000200090022-0

Approved For Release 2005/01/10 : CIA-RDP85B00803R000200090022-0

supervised the requalification of military pilots in the U-2C. Operational control of Cuban overflight operations was delegated to JCS/SAC on 12 October 1962. An Agency detachment from Edwards AFB was deployed to McCoy AFB, Fla., 13 Oct to support SAC. Msn 3101 was planned by the CIA and was accomplished as a SAC mission on 14 October 1962 by a military pilot departing Edwards AFB and landing at McCoy AFB.

3. Under ordinary circumstances weather required for successful strategic photographic reconnaissance of denied territory is a forecast for at least 75% of the primary target area to be cloud free. The general area forecast of the Caribbean provided by the U.S. Weather Bureau is inadequate for use in operational planning. Weather data for this purpose is obtained from the Global Wx Central located at Offutt AFB, Nebraska. It should be noted here that the specific interest in cloud cover for high altitude recon a/c is more concerned with the type and total amount of cloud cover in the target area from the surface to approximately 70,000 feet as opposed to the general interest in ceilings and visibility normally associated with terminal operations at a base of intended landing or departures. It should be noted that under most circumstances some part of the Island of Cuba will probably have favorable weather every day; however, when the Agency reported no flying due to unfavorable weather this must be interpreted to mean that less than the required 75 per cent cloud free conditions would exist over the specific areas of interest to the intelligence community.

Approved For Release 2005/01/10 : CIA-RDP85B00803R000200090022-0

4.

/s/ JACJr. DAD/SA